



# Idaho Potatoes

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## **Idaho Potato Production Unchanged from November**

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 131 million cwt, unchanged from the November forecast and up 12 percent from last year's 116 million cwt. Planted acres of 320,000 and harvested acres of 319,000 are up 15,000 acres from 2008. Statewide, yield is 411 cwt (field-run basis), up 28 cwt from last year and 25 cwt more than the previous record of 386 achieved in 2006. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 500 cwt, decreased 40 cwt from 2008. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 19,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 4,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 17 percent from last year at 9.50 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 405 cwt, compared to 375 cwt a year ago. This is the highest yield recorded for this area. Other area production from 300,000 harvested acres is expected to total 122 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 108 million cwt.

## **United States Highlights**

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2009 is forecast at 394 million cwt, up 1 percent from the November forecast and 4 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 919,400 acres, is slightly below the November forecast and 2008 estimate. The average yield, forecast at 429 cwt per acre, is up 3 cwt per acre from November's forecast and up 18 cwt per acre from last year. If realized, it will be the highest yield on record.

Western States: In eastern Washington, potato harvest was virtually completed by late November. Despite weather delays, harvest progress was the same as last year's pace and the 5-year average. In Colorado, growing conditions were favorable in the San Luis Valley, however, an early frost and disease led to increase abandonment this year. Oregon's crop had a normal start without any widespread delays during planting. In California, favorable weather conditions aided yields and resulted in good crop quality reports from growers.

Central States: In North Dakota, crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Wisconsin growers reported above average crop conditions and good quality. Cool temperatures and timely rain provided good growing conditions for Michigan potatoes.

Eastern States: In Maine, cool, dry conditions aided growers with an early start to potato planting. Warm weather was welcomed in mid-August, but dry conditions continued into mid-September, preventing tubers from increasing in size.

**Potatoes: Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production  
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 2008 – 2009**

States	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<u>1,000 Cwt</u>		<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 Cwt</u>			
WINTER	11.0	9.0	11.0	8.7	230	245	2,530	2,132
SPRING	70.3	75.6	68.8	73.4	293	291	20,132	21,325
SUMMER 1/ FALL	47.2	43.9	45.1	42.5	306	346	13,805	14,705
California	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	470	495	3,948	4,158
Colorado	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.2	385	400	21,907	22,080
<b>IDAHO, ALL</b>	<b>305.0</b>	<b>320.0</b>	<b>304.0</b>	<b>319.0</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>116,475</b>	<b>131,000</b>
<b>- 10 SW Counties</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>9,500</b>
<b>- Other Areas</b>	<b>290.0</b>	<b>301.0</b>	<b>289.0</b>	<b>300.0</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>108,375</b>	<b>121,500</b>
Maine	56.0	56.0	54.7	55.5	270	275	14,769	15,263
Massachusetts	2.8	3.5	2.7	3.5	260	260	702	910
Michigan	43.0	45.0	42.5	43.5	350	360	14,875	15,660
Minnesota	50.0	47.0	48.0	45.0	425	470	20,400	21,150
Montana	10.9	11.0	10.5	9.5	330	345	3,465	3,278
Nebraska	19.5	20.0	19.4	19.8	425	440	8,245	8,712
Nevada	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.1	410	465	2,378	2,372
New Mexico	5.9	6.5	5.9	6.4	390	420	2,301	2,688
New York	18.0	17.1	17.8	16.5	320	300	5,696	4,950
North Dakota	82.0	83.0	81.0	75.0	280	255	22,680	19,125
Ohio	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	325	335	683	704
Oregon, ALL	35.3	37.0	35.3	37.0	529	580	18,676	21,460
- Malheur, Co. 2/	2.8		2.8		460		1,288	
- Other Areas 2/	32.5		32.5		535		17,388	
Pennsylvania	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	265	310	2,518	2,945
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	280	210	140	84
Washington	155.0	145.0	155.0	145.0	600	610	93,000	88,450
Wisconsin	63.5	63.5	62.0	63.0	415	460	25,730	28,980
<b>TOTAL FALL</b>	<b>931.1</b>	<b>936.9</b>	<b>922.0</b>	<b>919.4</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>378,588</b>	<b>393,969</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>1,059.6</b>	<b>1,065.4</b>	<b>1,046.9</b>	<b>1,044.0</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>415,055</b>	<b>432,131</b>

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

2/ Estimates discontinued in 2009.